

78 *THE CASTAWAYS OF THE FLAG*

even when the tide was at its highest, and as long as the wind continued to blow from the east it could come to no harm. In the event of the wind veering to the south they would see if it was necessary to look for other moorings. Meantime the weather seemed to be definitely set fair, and this was the fine season,

When he got back the boatswain sought out Fritz and spoke to him about this,

"It's worth giving a little thought to," he said.

"Our boat comes before everything else. A

snug cave is fine. But one doesn't go to sea in a

cave, and when the time comes for us to leave

—if it ever does come—it's important that we

shouldn't be prevented from doing so*"

"Of course, Block/" Fritz answered* "We

will take every possible care to prevent the boat

coming to harm. Do you think perhaps there

is a better mooring for her on the other side of the

promontory ? "

"We'll see, sir, and since everything is all right

on this side I will go round to the other and hunt

turtles* Will you come with me ? "

"No, Block, Go alone, I am going back to

the captain- This last good night's rest
must have
reduced the fever. When he wakes he
will want
. to discuss the situation. I must be
thei& to tell
kirk all that has
happened."
** Quite* right, Mr* Fritz; and mind
you tell